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the X-MEN

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"WHERE WALKS THE JUGGERNAUT!"

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X-MEN! THE MOST UNUSUAL TEEN-AGERS OF ALL TIME!

"WHERE WALKS THE JUGGERNAUT!"

LAST ISSUE WE SAW HOW *CAIN MARKO*, THE SINISTER STEPBROTHER OF PROFESSOR X, STUMBLED ONTO THE LONG-LOST *TEMPLE OF CYTTORAK* DURING THE KOREAN WAR... DARING TO TOUCH THE FORBIDDEN RUBY, THEREBY TRANSFORMING HIMSELF INTO A *HUMAN JUGGERNAUT!*

AND NOW, OBSESSED WITH A BURNING DESIRE TO DESTROY HIS STEP-BROTHER, HE HAS FOUND *PROFESSOR X* AT LAST...!

HE SMASHED THROUGH OUR STRONGEST DEFENSES AS THOUGH THEY WERE CARDBOARD! AND NOW, THIS IS THE MOMENT I'VE *DREADED* FOR YEARS!

STORY BY SMILIN' STAN LEE
LAYOUTS BY JOLLY JACK KIRBY
PENCILING BY JAY GAVIN
INKING BY JOE SINNOTT
LETTERING BY SWINGIN' SAM ROSEN

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AS THE DEADLY *JUGGERNAUT* STEADILY APPROACHES UNTIL HE IS ALMOST UPON THE MOTIONLESS PROFESSOR, THE OTHER X-MEN, DAZED AND SHAKEN, SLOWLY RECOVER FROM THE STAGGERING IMPACT OF THE RELENTLESS ATTACK...!

WHEW!! WAS HE FOR *REAL*?

NO MERE HALLUCINATION COULD HAVE HIT US LIKE *THAT*, MY FRIGID FRIEND!

QUICKLY, GIRL... STAY WITH THE OTHERS! *I* WILL FACE THE *JUGGERNAUT*!

YOU *CAN'T*, PROFESSOR!! NOT *ALONE*!!

YOU HAVE YOUR ORDERS! *OBEY* THEM!

DON'T ANYONE MOVE! THIS IS THE *PROFESSOR'S* INNING!

BUT, WHAT HAPPENS IF THE *PROF* CAN'T STOP HIM??

THOSE ARE THE LAST ORDERS YOU'RE EVER GOING TO GIVE, MY LONG LOST STEPBROTHER!

IT TOOK ME ALL THESE YEARS TO FREE MYSELF OF THE TONS OF STONE I HAD BEEN BURIED UNDER IN KOREA * ... BUT THE WAIT WAS *WORTH* IT!

BECAUSE I PLANNED THIS TRIUMPHANT MOMENT ALL THAT TIME!

SEE THE *POWER* OF THE JUGGERNAUT! MY BODY IS SO CHARGED WITH BOUNDLESS ENERGY THAT I EXUDE WAVES OF *FORCE* EVEN WHEN STANDING STILL!

HE'S SPEAKING THE *TRUTH*! THE SHEER AURA OF STRENGTH ABOUT HIM IS ENOUGH TO PUSH MY WHEELCHAIR BACK!

* WE SAW THE ENTIRE AWESOME SPECTACLE IN *X-MEN #12*... STAN.

AND NOW, I'VE TOYED WITH YOU LONG ENOUGH! I CANNOT RESTRAIN MYSELF ANOTHER MINUTE! YOU MUST BE DESTROYED *NOW*... NOW AND *FOREVER*!

YOU FORGET ONE THING... I STILL HAVE A WEAPON... THE *SUPREME* WEAPON...!

YOU'RE *BLUFFING*! BUT IT WON'T HELP YOU! WHAT WEAPON CAN YOU *POSSIBLY* HAVE... TO STOP *ME*?

MY MUTANT BRAIN!!

AFTER UTTERING THOSE THREE WORDS, PROFESSOR X LAPSES INTO DEAD *SILENCE*... CONCENTRATING... FOCUSING EVERY IOTA OF MENTAL POWER HE POSSESSES... SENDING A BEAM OF SHEER MENTAL ENERGY AT HIS ONCOMING FOE... A BEAM MIGHTY ENOUGH TO TOPPLE A *MASTODON!!*

BUT...

...AFTER REELING FROM THE INITIAL JOLT, THE *JUGGERNAUT* CONTINUES HIS DREAD ADVANCE...

THE CRIMSON BANDS OF *CYTTORAK*, WHICH GAVE ME MY POWER, ALSO GAVE ME MY *PSIONIC HELMET*, CAPABLE OF PROTECTING ME FROM *ANY* MENTAL ATTACK!

HE'S GONE TOO FAR!

X-MEN... *ATTACK!*

I'LL TACKLE HIM, CYCLOPS... AS WE PLANNED!

THERE! I'LL TRY TO *TELEPORT* HIM LONG ENOUGH FOR YOU TO MOVE THE PROFESSOR TO SAFETY!

THIS WON'T HELP YOU! I CANNOT BE STOPPED!

JUST A FEW SECONDS MORE... THAT'S ALL I'LL NEED!

I CAN'T HOLD HIM! HE'S SHATTERING MY TELEKINETIC POWER!

IT'S ALL RIGHT! YOU GAVE US THE TIME WE NEEDED! *RELEASE HIM* NOW!

WHRRAK!

EXCELLENT, MY X-MEN! THAT WILL GIVE YOU A FEW MINUTES RESPITE!

I.. NEVER FELT... SUCH SHEER *POWER!* MY HEAD... IT'S STILL ACHING!

I MADE THE HOLE AS DEEP AS I COULD! IT SHOULD, *HOLD* HIM!

YOU'RE WHISTLIN' IN THE DARK, CYKE! YOU KNOW HE CAN FORCE HIS WAY OUT OF *ANYTHING!*

BUT, TILL HE *DOES*, WE HAVE A SECOND CHANCE!

EASY, SIR...YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT, NOW!

ANGEL, HELP THE PROFESSOR INTO HIS CHAIR!

I'LL DROP A FEW FORGET-ME-NOTS ON OUR PAL DOWN THERE!

WHAT'S OUR NEXT STRATAGEM, SIR?

WE MUST FIND *SOMETHING* TO SMASH HIS DEFENSE... TO *INJURE* HIM!

JEAN, HELP ME TO MY LAB... *QUICKLY!*

BEAST! YOU AND ICEMAN BRING ME ALL THE COMPONENT PARTS OF MY NEW ***MENTO-HELMET*** WHICH YOU CAN FIND!

TO OTHERS HE'S JUST A HELPLESS MAN IN A WHEEL-CHAIR! BUT, WHEN I SEE HIM LIKE THIS, I SENSE COURAGE... AND ***POWER***... SUCH AS FEW HUMANS CAN EVER COMPREHEND!

DON'T DAWDLE, BOBBY BOY! THIS IS *URGENT!*

GOOD THING YOU ***TOLD*** ME, HANK! I MIGHTA THOUGHT WE WERE ALL AT A MAYPOLE DANCE!

MOVING WITH THE SPEED AND SKILL OF A MASTER, PROFESSOR CHARLES XAVIER WORKS LIKE A MAN POSSESSED... AS THE CRUCIAL SECONDS TICK BY...

THIS IS THE LAST OF IT, SIR!

AT EASE! HANK! THE PROF WANTS DEAD SILENCE!

THERE! IT'S ***READY*** NOW!

AS YOU MAY HAVE GUESSED, THE PURPOSE OF THIS DEVICE IS TO ***INTENSIFY*** MY BRAIN WAVES... MAKE THEM EVEN MORE POWERFUL THAN THEY NORMALLY ARE!

BUT, THERE IS ALWAYS THE CHANCE THAT THEY WILL ***STILL*** NOT BE STRONG ENOUGH TO STOP THE JUGGERNAUT!

SO, I WILL SIT HERE WHILE THE POWER COILS CONTINUALLY CHARGE... EACH ADDITIONAL SECOND WILL ADD TO MY MENTAL STRENGTH!

MY MENTAL POWER IS ***ALREADY*** SO HIGHLY CHARGED THAT I MUST ***UNLEASH*** SOME ENERGY...

I'LL SEND MENTAL WAVES OUT OVER THE HEART OF THE CITY... RELEASING THEM WILL ACT LIKE A ***SAFETY VALVE*** TO ME!

MEANTIME, GET BACK TO THAT HOLE IN THE FLOOR... IT WILL NOT STOP ***JUGGERNAUT'S*** ATTACK MUCH LONGER!

AND, EVEN AS THE PROFESSOR SPEAKS...

HAVEN'T THEY REALIZED YET THAT *NOTHING* CAN HOLD BACK THE *JUGGERNAUT?*

THIS SLIGHT DELAY WILL ONLY MAKE MY FINAL MOMENT OF TRIUMPH ALL THE MORE SATISFYING!

WHEN I RECEIVED MY POWER IN THE HIDDEN TEMPLE OF CYTTORAK, I BECAME *UNSTOPPABLE!* EVERYTHING MUST GIVE WAY TO THE *JUGGERNAUT'S* ATTACK... EVEN A SOLID WALL OF EARTH...!

WHOOM!

THUS, NO PIT CAN HOLD ME... FOR I POSSESS THE POWER TO HAMMER MY OWN HAND AND FOOTHOLDS...

WRUK!

THOK!

HE'S *COMING*, CYKE! I'LL SWOOP DOWN AND HEAD HIM OFF!

NO! STAY WHERE YOU *ARE!*

MY OWN *FORCE BEAM* IS STRONGER.. AND LESS DANGEROUS!

THE FOOLS! I'LL SHOW THEM HOW *EASILY* I CAN CHARGE THROUGH THEIR LAUGHABLE DEFENSES!

IS IT WORKING? ARE YOU FORCING HIM BACK?

I CAN'T TELL! THE GLARE FROM MY OPTIC RAY IS TOO BLINDING! BUT... I DON'T FEEL ANY RESISTANCE!

WHAT COULD HAVE *HAPPENED* TO HIM?

HE'LL GET HIS ANSWER IN EXACTLY TWO SECONDS..!

HE'S RIGHT *UNDER* US! ANGEL..*QUICK*.. TAKE TO THE *AIR!*

CYKE!

WHOOM!

NO PUNY TEENAGERS CAN TRAP THE *JUGGER-NAUT!*

CYKE'S FORCE BEAM CAN'T HOLD JUGGERNAUT BACK! IT'S ONLY SLOWING HIM DOWN SLIGHTLY!

I'VE GOT TO *DISTRACT* HIM ... MAKE HIM TURN FROM SCOTT AND ATTACK *ME!*

I'LL CRUSH YOU LIKE A FLEA!

IT'S LIKE HITTING A STONE WALL! HE DOESN'T SEEM TO *FEEL* IT!

STAY *WITH* IT, CYKE!! *I'LL* KEEP HIM TOO BUSY TO FOLLOW THROUGH!

CAREFUL, ANGEL! HE'S STRONGER THAN YOU SUSPECT!

YOUR *LEGS*... BEND THEM *UNDER* HIM... USE YOUR BACK FOR LEVERAGE.. NOW *KICK*... THAT'S IT! THAT'S *IT!*

BUT...HE ONLY MOVED BACK A FEW FEET!

LUCKILY, I CAUGHT HIM SLIGHTLY OFF-BALANCE! OTHERWISE, HE WOULDN'T HAVE *BUDGED!*

HE'S CHARGING TOWARDS US AGAIN! STAND ASIDE, PARTNER ... THIS ROUND IS *MINE!*

NO! THIS IS NO TIME FOR HEROICS! WE'LL TAKE HIM *TOGETHER!* STAY AIRBORNE, ANGEL!

KEEP IT UP! YOU'RE MERELY *EXHAUSTING* YOURSELVES! HAVEN'T YOU REALIZED *YET* THAT I CANNOT BE HURT...OR BEATEN!

THUD!

BOKK!

FORGIVE US, JUG...WE'RE JUST A COUPLE OF SLOW LEARNERS!

MEANWHILE, THROUGHOUT THE METROPOLITAN AREA, STRANGE MESSAGE IMPULSES ARE BEING MYSTERIOUSLY RECEIVED ...

WHAT'S WRONG, PHIL? RADIO ACTING UP ON YOU?

NO, CAPTAIN! EVERYTHING'S A-OKAY! THAT'S JUST *IT!*

JUST *WHAT?*

I'M GETTING SOME SORT OF MESSAGE ... LOUD AND CLEAR ... BUT *NOT THROUGH THE RADIO!*

AND, IN ONE OF THE MANY *TEEN BRIGADE* HEADQUARTERS THROUGHOUT THE EAST, THE MESSAGE IS ALSO RECEIVED... EVEN BY SOME YOUTHS WHO ARE *NOT* WEARING EARPHONES...!

I DON'T *GET* IT! HOW CAN WE RECEIVE A RADIO CALL WITH OUR SET TURNED *OFF?*

THERE HASN'T BEEN A *SOUND*... AND YET, WE'RE *ALL* HEARING IT!

IT'S GOT NOTHING TO *DO* WITH THE RADIO!! WE'RE RECEIVING A SUPER-POWERFUL *THOUGHT* TRANSMISSION!

EVEN WITH NO RADIO RECEIVER NEARBY TO MAGNIFY THE MENTAL IMPULSE, ONE MAN WITH EXTRA KEEN AUDITORY POWERS "HEARS" THE UNCANNY SOUND IN THE MIDST OF A CROWDED COURTROOM ...

PROCEED, MR. MURDOCK! I'M WAITING FOR YOUR CROSS-EXAMINATION!

THAT STRANGE MENTAL CALL.. SOMETHING UNCANNY IS TAKING PLACE!

IF NOT FOR THIS TRIAL, I'D CHANGE TO *DAREDEVIL* AND TRACE IT TO ITS SOURCE!

SORRY, YOUR HONOR! I WAS JUST.. COLLECTING MY THOUGHTS!

WHILE, BACK AT PROFESSOR XAVIER'S PRIVATE SCHOOL IN WESTCHESTER ...

PROFESSOR, LET US RUSH YOU *AWAY* FROM HERE, WHILE THERE'S STILL TIME!

NO, JEAN! I CAN'T RUN FROM THE *JUGGERNAUT!* IF *I'M* UNABLE TO STOP HIM... THINK WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN HE INVADES THE *CITY!*

CAN'T I GO AND HELP THE OTHERS NOW, SIR?

VERY WELL! DELAY HIM ALL YOU CAN! EACH SECOND GAINED INCREASES MY OWN POWER!

THEN, AT THAT MOMENT...

THE JUGGERNAUT IS *FREE* AGAIN! CYCLOPS AND THE ANGEL CAN'T IMPEDE HIS ADVANCE!

JEAN! BOBBY! WHY DON'T YOU WHISK THE PROFESSOR TO SOME REMOTE SPOT.. AS A PRECAUTIONARY MEASURE?

FLIGHT WILL SOLVE NOTHING, MY X-MEN! JOIN THE OTHERS, BEAST! JEAN, REMAIN WITH ME!

BUT, PROFESSOR... THEY MAY NEED *ME*, TOO...!

YOUR CHANCE WILL COME, GIRL! FOR THE MOMENT, *I* NEED YOU HERE!

CAREFUL, ICEMAN! IT WILL TAKE MORE THAN A HASTILY-FORMED FROZEN CLUB TO AFFECT THE *JUGGERNAUT!*

SCAMPER, BOBBY!! WE'RE *NEEDED!*

THERE'S GOTTA BE *SOME* WAY TO STOP HIM... THERE'S, JUST *GOTTA!*

CYKE, I CAN'T *HOLD* HIM! HE KEEPS CHARGING FORWARD NO MATTER *WHAT* WE DO!

HE'S ADVANCING AGAINST MY FORCE BEAM AS THOUGH IT DOESN'T EXIST!

I *WARNED* YOU! YOU'RE MERELY *MUTANTS*... BUT I.. I RECEIVED MY POWER FROM THE ENCHANTED TEMPLE OF *CYTTORAK!!* *NOTHING* CAN STAND IN MY WAY!

LEAST OF ALL A USELESS, WING-FLAPPING WONDER BOY LIKE *YOU!*

I DIDN'T REALIZE HE COULD *MOVE* SO FAST! HE SNARED THE *ANGEL!*

THEN, BEFORE CYCLOPS CAN REDIRECT HIS POWERFUL OPTIC BEAM, THE DREADED *JUGGERNAUT* SHOVES HIS STARTLED VICTIM DIRECTLY IN ITS PATH...!

THIKK!

PHT!

THERE! THIS WILL RID ME OF *ONE* PETTY ANNOYANCE!

I JUST HAD TIME TO WEAKEN MY BEAM'S INTENSITY... LUCKILY, WARREN IS MERELY STUNNED!

AND NOW I'LL LET THE *REST* OF YOU COSTUMED WEAKLINGS KEEP HIM *COMPANY!*

WE'VE BEEN THREATENED *BEFORE*, MISTER... AND *WE'RE* STILL HERE ...WHILE OUR THREATENERS *AREN'T!* THERE'S GOT TO BE *SOME* WAY TO BEAT YOU, AND WE'LL *FIND* IT OR DIE TRYING!

THAT'S VERY *OBLIGING* OF YOU, CYCLOPS! THAT'S EXACTLY THE FATE I HAD IN MIND FOR YOU!

JUST STAND WHERE YOU ARE A MINUTE LONGER!

HE WILL, BIG MAN... BUT *YOU* WON'T!!

THE STAIRS BENEATH MY FEET... THEY TURNED TO *ICE!!* I-I'M LOSING MY FOOTING!

GOOD WORK, ICEMAN! YOU'RE JUST IN TIME!

AND, EVEN AS THE BATTLE RAGES, TEENAGER *JOHNNY STORM* CLIMBS INTO A FRIEND'S RACING CAR IN A LOCAL GARAGE MANY MILES AWAY...

NOT A BAD LITTLE CRATE YOU'VE GOT HERE, CHARLIE! I HOPE I'LL BE ABLE TO JOIN YOU WHEN YOU TRY HER OUT ON THE SALT FLATS!

AW, YOU'LL PROBABLY BE CUTTIN' AROUND TOWN AFTER SOME NUTTY SUPER-VILLAIN, JOHNNY!

BEATS ME WHY ANYONE WOULD WANNA BE A COSTUMED CRIME-FIGHTER WHEN HE COULD SPEND HIS TIME WITH ***RACIN' CARS*** INSTEAD!

Y'KNOW SOMETHIN', FELLAS? I'VE OFTEN WONDERED THE SAME THING MYSELF! MAYBE I'M A MENTAL CASE AND DON'T KNOW IT!

UH-OH! THERE MAY BE MORE ***TRUTH*** TO THAT THAN I THOUGHT! ***NOW*** I'M BEGINNING TO ***HEAR*** THINGS... INSIDE MY BRAIN!

NO! I'M ***NOT*** HEARING THINGS! IT'S A MENTAL THOUGHT WAVE... AND IT'S SO ***STRONG*** I CAN ALMOST ***TOUCH*** IT!

HEY, JOHNNY... WHAT'S SHAKIN'? YOU LOOK LIKE YOU SAT ON A ***TACK!***

CLAM UP, YOU GUYS! SOMETHING'S GOIN' ***ON!***

I ***KNEW*** IT! ANY MINUTE NOW HE'LL YELL ***FLAME ON*** 'N' GO FLYING OUTTA HERE!

IT'S FROM THE LEADER OF THE ***X-MEN!*** NOW THAT HE'S MADE CONTACT, HE'S BEAMING A MESSAGE RIGHT ***TO*** ME! THEY'RE IN TROUBLE... ***BIG*** TROUBLE!

HEY, JOHNNY! IF YOU'RE GONNA DAYDREAM, DO IT AT DORRIE'S HOUSE, HUH? I WANNA FINISH WORKIN' ON MY CHARIOT!

BUT, HOW CAN I BE ***SURE?*** REED ***WARNED*** ME THAT ANY OF OUR OLD ENEMIES ARE APT TO SET ALL KINDS OF TRAPS FOR US... TO PREVENT HIS WEDDING FROM TAKING PLACE!*

FOR ALL I KNOW, ***DR. DOOM*** COULD BE PLANTING THIS THOUGHT IN MY BRAIN, OR THE ***WIZARD!***

ANYWAY, I HESITATED TOO LONG... THE CONTACT IS FADING AWAY.. I'VE ***LOST*** IT!

* DON'T TAKE ***OUR*** WORD FOR IT!.. SEE THE GREAT ***F.F. ANNUAL #4,*** ON SALE ***NOW!***..STAN.

PROFESSOR! WHAT'S *WRONG?* WHAT *IS* IT?

I ACCIDENTALLY REACHED THE *HUMAN TORCH!* THEN, I THOUGHT OF A WAY HE COULD *HELP* US... BUT HE DIDN'T TRUST HIS SENSES!

AND I DARE NOT WASTE TOO MUCH MENTAL ENERGY BY PRO-LONGING THE CONTACT IN ORDER TO *CONVINCE* HIM!

BUT...WHAT CAN THE *TORCH* DO THAT THE REST OF US CAN'T?? *OUR* POWER IS AS GREAT AS *HIS!*

TRUE, JEAN ... BUT HIS IS A *DIFFERENT TYPE* OF POWER ... AND, COMBINED WITH OUR OWN, IT MIGHT JUST TURN THE TIDE!

I *MUST* CONTACT HIM AGAIN ... EVEN IF IT WEAKENS ME!

MEANWHILE, ON THE STAIRWAY, JUST OUTSIDE THE DOOR...

NO MATTER *HOW* THICK YOU MAKE THAT ICE PACK, I'LL BREAK OUT OF IT! YOU'RE NOT BATTLING SOME ORDINARY CRIMINAL NOW!

LOOK! HE'S CRACKING THE ICE!

BOY, HE SURE COMES ON *STRONG!*

EVEN THOUGH I *KNOW* HE CAN BREAK OUT OF THIS, I'LL KEEP PACKING IT AROUND HIM TO GIVE *YOU* A CHANCE TO RECHARGE YOUR FORCE, BEAM, CYKE!

BUT, WE'RE ONLY FIGHTING A *DELAYING* ACTION AT BEST! IF ONLY THERE WERE SOME *OTHER* WAY...!

LOOK! HE'S STARTING TO *GLOW* WITH THAT AURA OF ENERGY, OR WHATEVER HE CALLED IT!

GET *BACK*, BOBBY...BACK! HE'LL CRACK OPEN THE ENTIRE ICE WALL AT ANY SECOND!

KRAKK!

TOO LATE! THOSE ROCK-HARD CHUNKS OF FLYING ICE STRUCK HIM BEFORE HE COULD DODGE! ... AND NOW THE *JUGGER-NAUT* IS FREE AGAIN!

UNNHHH..!

NOW I'LL SEE TO IT THAT *YOU* NEVER INTERFERE WITH ME AGAIN!

STILL TOO SOON TO USE MY *POWER BEAM!* BUT, IF ONLY... *THE BEAST!!* HE'S JUST IN TIME!!

STAY *WITH* IT, BOBBY! I'LL IMPEDE HIS PROGRESS *SOMEHOW!!*

IT'S FORTUNATE THAT I DECIDED TO HOLD MYSELF IN RESERVE IN CASE YOUR OWN COMBAT MACHINATIONS WERE UNSUCCESSFUL!

WHOM!

AND NOW THAT I'VE ACHIEVED SUFFICIENT IMPETUS, I'LL TRY TO KEEP YOU FROM BEING TOO *BORED!*

AFTER ALL, YOU *ARE* OUR GUEST... IN A MANNER OF SPEAKING... AND DESERVE A LITTLE *ATTENTION!*

WHUMP!

THUP!

IT DOESN'T MATTER *HOW* AGILE YOU ARE... YOU CAN'T STOP ME FROM ADVANCING FORWARD... AND SOONER OR LATER I'LL MANAGE TO GRAB HOLD OF YOU...!!

WOK!

ZEEEEE

WHIZZZZZZZ

ZEEEEE

MOOOSSST

BOK!

NOW *THAT'S* A DEPRESSING THOUGHT, IF EVER I HEARD ONE!

THEN SUDDENLY, A SHARP, POWERFUL, COMMANDING *THOUGHT* RINGS OUT IN THE BRAIN OF HANK McCOY..!

BEAST! LOOSEN HIS HELMET! IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO DEFEAT HIM!

WE MUSTN'T FORGET OUR *MANNERS*, JUG! A GENTLEMAN DOFFS HIS HAT WHEN ENTERING A ROOM!

YOU *FOOL!* DID YOU EXPECT TO REMOVE MY HELMET BEFORE I COULD *GRAB* YOU??!

WELL, IT *DID* SEEM LIKE AN AWFULLY CLEVER IDEA AT THE TIME!

CLEVER OR NOT... IT MAY WELL BE YOUR *LAST* IDEA!

MY *FOOT..!!*

NOW, ONCE AGAIN, YOU'LL FEEL THE MATCHLESS POWER OF THE *JUGGERNAUT!!*

CAN'T EXTRICATE MYSELF!

I'LL GIVE YOU NO SECOND CHANCE TO ESCAPE ME BY MEANS OF FANCY FOOTWORK..!

THUD!

AND NOW THAT YOU'RE HELPLESS, I'LL... *WHA...??*

INJURING ONE FOOT DOESN'T RENDER THE *BEAST* HELPLESS! MY HANDS ARE *EQUALLY* DEXTEROUS!

WHOOM!

BAH!! I'LL GET YOU, SOONER OR LATER!

THWOK!

LATER, I HOPE!

HE'S HEADING JUST WHERE I *WANT* HIM!

HE THREW HIMSELF INTO OUR *DANGER ROOM!* HIS MOMENTUM HURLED HIM TO THE FLOOR!

IF I CAN JUST REACH THE CONTROL PANEL BEFORE HE REGAINS HIS FEET!

MY LEG IS SEVERELY SPRAINED AND MY ENTIRE BODY BRUISED AND ACHING... BUT IT'S *IMPERATIVE* THAT I MAKE IT..!

SO, *THERE* YOU ARE! NOW THERE'S *NO* WAY FOR YOU TO ESCAPE FROM ME! THIS IS YOUR *FINISH!*

I'VE GOT TO STRETCH... JUST A LITTLE FURTHER..!! *THERE!* I OPENED THE MASTER *CONTROL PANEL!*

CLICK!

THE PAIN IS *EXCRUCIATING*... BUT I DAREN'T STOP *NOW!*

YOU'RE WASTING YOUR TIME! *NOTHING* CAN STOP ME FROM REACHING YOU!

THAT, MY ARROGANT ANTAGONIST, REMAINS TO BE *SEEN!*

I *DID* IT! I ACTIVATED THE ENTIRE OBSTACLE TRAINING COMPLEX! IT SHOULD SERVE TO *DELAY* HIM UNTIL THE *OTHERS* CAN PITCH IN!

JETS OF CHEMICAL FLAME SHOOTING AT ME! IS *THIS* THE BEST YOU CAN DO ??

WHUPP!

PERHAPS *THIS* IS MORE TO YOUR LIKING?!!

WE TRY TO GIVE OUR GUESTS THEIR *MONEY'S* WORTH!

TAK!

AS IF IN ANSWER TO THE JUGGERNAUT'S SNEERING QUESTION, THE DANGER ROOM SUDDENLY SEEMS TO COME ALIVE WITH NEW MENACE AS THE BEAST STEADILY MANIPULATES THE CONTROL PANEL, THOUGH EACH MOVEMENT IS AGONY TO HIS INJURED BODY!

BUT, THE SUPERNATURAL POWER OF THE *JUGGERNAUT* IS ALMOST INCALCULABLE! DESPITE ALL THE DANGERS, HE FORGES AHEAD, SMASHING EACH AND EVERY BIT OF APPARATUS IN TURN!

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN...? I..AM..THE.. *JUGGERNAUT!!*

RIIPP!

STILL UNWILLING TO SURRENDER, THE DESPERATE *BEAST* UNLEASHES THE MOST POWERFUL DANGER IN THEIR ARSENAL... A SWIFTLY-ROLLING TEN-TON BARREL OF STEEL!!

DOOM!

THUS, THE IRRESISTIBLE FORCE MEETS THE IMMOVABLE OBJECT... AN OBJECT FROM WHOSE BODY FLOWS A CURRENT OF SUCH POTENT ENERGY THAT THE MIGHTY STEEL ROLLER IS STOPPED COLD, BEFORE IT CAN STRIKE HIM!!

SQUEEEE

NOT ONLY DID HE *STOP* IT... BUT HE'S MANAGED TO ROLL IT BACK TOWARDS *ME!!* THIS COULD WELL BE THE END OF A PROMISING CAREER FOR MY FAVORITE X-MAN!!

IT'S TOO LATE TO LOCATE THE BUTTON TO *STOP* THAT THING... I'VE ONLY *ONE* CHANCE..!

I MUSTN'T THINK OF THE PAIN... I'VE *GOT* TO USE MY LEGS...!!

...*UHHHH!*.. BECAUSE OF MY LEG... COULDN'T LEAP HIGH ENOUGH.. JUST... *UHH!!*

THUD!

HE'S UNCONSCIOUS! HE CAN'T TROUBLE ME ANY MORE! I'LL CONTINUE ON TILL I TRAP *XAVIER*... THEN I'LL COME BACK AND FINISH THE BEAST... AND *ALL* OF THEM!

MEANWHILE, A THOUGHTFUL JOHNNY STORM DRIVES DOWN MADISON AVENUE, TRYING TO ARRIVE AT A MOMENTOUS DECISION...!

I'M RECEIVING THAT MENTAL CONTACT AGAIN! IT *SEEMS* GENUINE ENOUGH! BUT... DO I DARE TO *TRUST* IT!?

AWW, WHAT THE HECK! IF I WAS THE *CAUTIOUS* TYPE, I WOULDN'T BE A MEMBER OF THE F.F. IN THE *FIRST* PLACE! WHAT AM I SCARED OF??

GOOD! I HAVE DISPELLED THE CLOUD OF SUSPICION FROM HIS BRAIN! NOW, I MUST LEAD HIM TO US AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE!

I SHALL DIRECT YOU TO WHERE YOU ARE NEEDED! YOU MUST RELAX! TRY TO THINK OF NOTHING! LET *MY* MIND GUIDE YOURS!

OKAY, MISTER! IT'S YOUR SHOW!

YOUR CAR IS TOO SLOW! PARK IT AND BECOME THE *HUMAN TORCH!* THEN, FOLLOW MY *THOUGHT BEAM!*

FLAME ON!

WHEN YOU ARRIVE, YOU WILL FOLLOW MY COMMANDS *IMPLICITLY!* THERE IS MORE AT STAKE THAN YOU CAN IMAGINE!

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THEN, BACK AT THE WORLD'S MOST UNUSUAL PRIVATE SCHOOL ...

DID YOU CONTACT HIM, PROFESSOR?

YES, JEAN! AND NOW...IT'S TIME FOR *ME* TO ENTER THE PICTURE! MY BRAIN HAS BEEN FORTIFIED TO THE MAXIMUM DEGREE!

IF I AM *EVER* TO DEFEAT THE JUGGERNAUT, IT MUST BE *NOW!*

BE ON GUARD, MY DEAR...WE'RE ALMOST *UPON* HIM!

I DON'T KNOW, SIR! I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM FOR THE PAST FEW MINUTES!

HAS *ANGEL* RECOVERED FROM HIS ENCOUNTER WITH MY STEPBROTHER YET? HIS MUTANT TALENTS ARE VERY IMPORTANT TO MY PLAN!

THERE'S JUGGERNAUT *NOW!*

SO, XAVIER! DESPITE EVERYTHING YOU COULD DO TO STOP ME... DESPITE ALL YOUR PUNY X-MEN.. I HAVE CORNERED YOU AT LAST!

PERHAPS IT IS *I* WHO HAVE CORNERED *YOU*, CAIN!

NEVER USE THAT NAME AGAIN!! I AM THE *JUGGERNAUT!* CAIN MARKO NO LONGER EXISTS...

..AND NEITHER SHALL *YOU*, AFTER I...

WHA..? WHAT ARE YOU *DOING??*

SUSPENDING YOU IN THE AIR... TELEKINET-ICALLY

EASY, MARVEL GIRL! HE'S TOO STRONG!! DON'T STRAIN YOURSELF!

THE PROFESSOR IS *RIGHT!* HE'S ADVANCING AGAINST ME ... PUSHING MY POWER ASIDE AS THOUGH IT'S A PHYSICAL THING..!

BUT THEN, AT THAT TENSION-PACKED INSTANT...!

YOU ARE JUST IN *TIME*, TORCH! YOUR ADVERSARY IS OVER THERE! YOU MUST SOME-HOW *ENSNARE* HIM!

I HEAR YA TALKIN', PAL! JUST SIT TIGHT AND WATCH MY SMOKE!!

WHOEVER HE IS... MY FLAMES DON'T AFFECT HIM! THERE'S SOME STRANGE SORT OF *ENERGY FIELD* AROUND HIM WHICH THEY CAN'T PENETRATE!

I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN THE *X-MEN* WOULDN'T NEED ANYONE UNLESS THEY WERE UP AGAINST SOMETHING *SPECIAL!*

KEEP ENCIRCLING HIM, TORCH... EVEN THOUGH IT SEEMS IN VAIN! YOUR MISSION IS TO *CONFUSE* HIM... TO KEEP HIM OCCUPIED WHILE MY X-MEN DELIVER THE FINAL BLOW!

A *FINE* THING! I'M DOIN' THE JOB OF A TEN-CENT *PINWHEEL!*

ALTHOUGH HE SITS QUIETLY, HARDLY MOVING A MUSCLE, THE MANY-FACETED BRAIN OF CHARLES XAVIER IS PERFORMING MANY FUNCTIONS AT ONCE... AND ONE OF THOSE FUNCTIONS IS... SUMMONING WARREN WORTHINGTON THE THIRD... THE MUTANT *ANGEL!*

ANGEL! WHEREVER YOU ARE! COME TO ME! THIS IS PROFESSOR X... *COME TO ME!* WE *NEED* YOU!!

AND, A SHORT DISTANCE DOWN THE HALL, LYING AMONG THE DEBRIS WHERE HE HAD FALLEN, THE TALL, SLIM, WINGED X-MAN IS PRODDED BY THE POWERFUL THOUGHT COMMAND...!

WE *NEED* YOU, ANGEL!! YOU MUST ANSWER MY SUMMONS!! WE NEED YOU...!!

THE PROFESSOR ...CALLING! CAN'T LET HIM DOWN...!

STILL WEAK... WOBBLY IN MY KNEES!! WON'T USE MY WINGS YET... HAVE TO SAVE MY STRENGTH... TO FIGHT *JUGGERNAUT!*

FLAMES.. UP AHEAD! IT LOOKS LIKE ...IT *IS*... THE *HUMAN TORCH!*

MY FIREBALLS AREN'T *STOPPING* HIM, PROFESSOR! WHAT *ELSE* DO YOU SUGGEST?

YOU MAY DISCONTINUE THEM NOW!

THE *FINAL PHASE* OF MY PLAN IS ABOUT TO BEGIN!

BRACE YOURSELF, ANGEL! WAIT FOR MY NEXT MENTAL COMMAND!

THE ANGEL IS STILL WEAK...ON THE VERGE OF EXHAUSTION! I MUST GAIN HIM A FEW MORE SECONDS!

I KNEW YOU'D HAVE TO LAND SOONER OR LATER! NOW, YOU TOO ARE HELPLESS BEFORE ME!

TORCH! LAND IN FRONT OF JUGGERNAUT AND DO EXACTLY AS I TELL YOU! SPLIT-SECOND TIMING WILL BE ALL-IMPORTANT!

STAND READY TO BRING YOUR FLAME TO PEAK INTENSITY... LIKE AN EXPLODING FLASH BULB!

NOW, TORCH... NOW!

PERFECT! YOU BLINDED HIM TEMPORARILY! HE CANNOT FIGHT WHAT HE CANNOT SEE! YOU STAGGERED HIM!

THAT SUDDEN BRIGHTNESS!! MY EYES!! EVERYTHING IS SPINNING BEFORE ME!!

IT'S UP TO YOU NOW, ANGEL! TAKE TO THE AIR!!

I WON'T FAIL YOU, PROFESSOR!!

I KNOW YOU WON'T! MY NEXT COMMANDS WILL BE TELEPATHIC... TO CONFOUND JUGGERNAUT!

YOU'RE TOO LOW, ANGEL! FLY HIGHER! THOUGH HE CANNOT SEE YOU, HE CAN HEAR THE BEATING OF YOUR WINGS!

THAT'S BETTER! STAY OUT OF REACH OF HIS GROPING ARMS!

BOY! THAT GUY COULD TEACH ME THINGS ABOUT FLYING!

YOU SERVE NO PURPOSE, BUT TO INCREASE MY RAGE! YOU CANNOT HARM THE JUGGERNAUT!

HE KINDA MAKES SENSE TO ME, PROFESSOR! WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH BY HAVING THE ANGEL FLY AROUND HIM?

JUST WATCH... IT WILL SOON BECOME CLEAR TO YOU!

NOW, ANGEL! THIS IS THE INSTANT! DIVE! DIVE!

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THIS WILL BE YOUR ONLY CHANCE! *EVERYTHING* DEPENDS UPON IT!

YOU *DID* IT! HE'S *VULNERABLE* NOW!

MY *HELMET!!*

SECONDS LATER, AFTER THE JUGGERNAUT'S *VISION* HAS RETURNED...

UNDER MY MENTAL COMMANDS, THE *BEAST* LOOSENED YOUR HELMET DURING YOUR BATTLE...

THEN, TO CULMINATE THE PLAN, THE *ANGEL* REMOVED IT COMPLETELY!

WITH OR *WITHOUT* THAT HELMET, *YOU* WON'T ESCAPE *ME!*

NONSENSE, CAIN! *I* AM THE MASTER HERE AGAIN!

YOURS WAS AN *ACQUIRED* POWER...OBTAINED BY A FREAK ACCIDENT OF CHANCE! BUT MY *BRAIN* IS A *PART* OF ME... MY POWER IS MY *OWN!*

AND *THIS* IS BUT THE SMALLEST *PART* OF IT!

NO! YOU CAN'T BEAT ME! YOU *CAN'T!* YOU WERE *ALWAYS* THE WINNER... EVEN WHEN WE WERE YOUNG... I HATED YOU! I SWORE I'D *VANQUISH* YOU SOME DAY! AND I WILL... I *WILL!*

NEVER HAS THERE BEEN SUCH RAW *HATRED*... SUCH AN INSATIABLE DESIRE FOR *VENGEANCE!* THOUGH HIS *BODY* IS DEFEATED, HIS *HATE* IS PROPELLING HIM FORWARD!!

IF *I* MUST TASTE THE BITTER DREGS OF DEFEAT... I'LL DRAG *YOU* DOWN WITH ME!! NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS TO ME... *YOU* MUST PAY!

ALL YOUR LIFE YOU'VE BEEN RULED BY GREED... ENVY.. AVARICE! AND NOW... IT HAS COME TO *THIS!*

IF THINGS HAD BEEN DIFFERENT, WE MIGHT HAVE BEEN FRIENDS... WE MIGHT HAVE TRULY BEEN ***BROTHERS!*** BUT YOU WOULD HAVE IT NO OTHER WAY! THIS FINAL CHAPTER WAS WRITTEN WHEN WE FIRST MET! THIS IS THE ONLY WAY IT COULD HAVE ENDED!

UHHHHH...!

I DON'T ***GET*** IT! ALL YOU DID... WAS ***LOOK*** AT HIM!!

IT IS BEST YOU THINK SO, MY YOUNG FRIEND!

HE WILL RECOVER... AND, WITHOUT HIS HELMET, THE AUTHORITIES WILL BE ABLE TO KEEP HIM IN CONFINEMENT!

AS FOR YOU... YOU WILL RETURN TO ***FANTASTIC FOUR*** HEAD-QUARTERS NOW... WITH NO MEMORY OF WHAT HAS OCCURRED!

BUT, THE ***X-MEN*** SHALL REMEMBER... AND SHALL EVER BE GRATEFUL TO YOU, JOHNNY STORM!

THUS, SECONDS LATER, A FAMOUS, FLAMING FIGURE BLAZES ACROSS WESTCHESTER TOWARDS THE HEART OF MANHATTAN...

BOY! TALK ABOUT ***DAYDREAMING!*** I CAN'T REMEMBER ***HOW*** I FLEW THIS FAR FROM HOME!

I MUST REALLY BE GETTING ***ABSENT-MINDED*** IN MY OLD AGE!

WHILE, THE FOLLOWING DAY, THINGS ARE SOMEWHAT MORE PLACID AMONG THE WORLD'S MOST UNUSUAL TEEN-AGERS...

WE'VE NEVER ***ALL*** BEEN INJURED AT THE SAME TIME BEFORE!

WHO CARES? WITH A NURSE LIKE ***JEAN,*** IT'S A ***PLEASURE!***

MY ***MOTHER*** USED TO ***KISS*** ME TO EXPEDITE MY RECOVERY!

I DO NOT HAPPEN TO BE YOUR MOTHER, MR. McCOY!

THAT'S FOR SURE!

REST UP, MY X-MEN, SO THAT YOU WILL RECOVER QUICKLY FROM YOUR INJURIES! YOU HAVE FOUGHT WELL... AND I ***HAVE*** SOMETHING FOR YOU, AFTER YOU ARE UP AND ABOUT!

HOW ***ABOUT*** THAT? WE'RE GONNA GET A ***REWARD!***

C'MON, PROFESSOR... TELL US WHAT IT ***IS!!***

IT'S A ***BROOM***... FOR ***EACH*** OF YOU! THE SCHOOL IS A ***SHAMBLES*** AFTER YOUR FIGHT... AND ***SOMEBODY*** HAS TO TIDY IT UP!

NEXT ISSUE... ONE OF THE STRANGEST MENACES OF ALL CONFRONTS THE X-MEN! IT'LL BE A BULLPEN BOMBSHELL... AND YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE TO BE A MUTANT TO ENJOY IT! ***'NUFF SAID!***

MINUTEMEN

Blunt

Brian Azzarello